

# Secretary of State's Council on Library Development

## Meeting Minutes

Kirkpatrick State Information Center  
Roy Blunt Conference Room  
Jefferson City, MO

May 15, 2003

Members present: Busch, Burris, Bentley, Burson, Black, Coleman, Fuchs, Jones, Hogerty, Nordwald, Rickerson, Shaw

Staff present: Parker, Steinman, Reading, Adams, Vale, Smith

Guests present: Lisa Whitacre-Quantitative Resources, Sharon Shackley-DESE, Deb Sutton-DESE, Lisa Walters-DESE, Carl Sitz-DESE, Paul White-Mid Continent Library, Susan Singleton-MLNC, Margaret Booker-MLA, Dan Ross-Executive Deputy Secretary of State

Absent: Baker, Jetton, Polk, Sundermeyer, Stoll, Skaggs, Sullivan

Busch called the meeting to order at 9:30am.

The Council and guests introduced themselves.

New staff members were introduced. Barbara Reading, Director of Library Development, introduced Krista Adams, the new Statewide and Community Partnership Consultant. Adams told the Council she is currently planning a series of workshops to help libraries develop partnership skills. These will build on public speaking and presentation skills. The next series of workshops will focus on making actual contacts with potential partners. These will be followed with continuing the partnership relationship and in the event the need should arise, how to effectively end the partnership without discord.

Linda Harris, Director of Reference Services, introduced Cindy Wyatt, the new reference librarian, and Matt Walston, the new technician, who will be handling interlibrary loans.

Busch asked if there were any further questions from the previous meeting or the orientation. Parker could repeat the orientation for those new members who were unable to attend the first meeting.

### **ShowMe-The-Connection Presentation**

Parker introduced Lisa Whitacre from Quantitative Resources who gave a presentation of the school study, Show-Me the Connection.

Whitacre began with a statement on the background of the study. This was a cooperative project between the State Library, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL). The purpose was to determine if a relationship between school library media center services and student achievement existed. Seven other states have done similar studies. It was determined a relationship does exist between the school library media centers and students' achievement.

Bentley asked about the content of the survey.

Whitacre responded the survey contained 47 questions. The Census 2000 data used was at the county level not the school district level. At the time of the study, the data was not available at the school district level. It is now available.

Coleman asked if the 241 schools surveyed were all public schools.

Whitacre answered yes.

Parker asked if there is a need for a follow-up study. The Council agreed there is a need.

Rickerson suggested the follow-up study focus on the library media centers. For example, what kind of library media center is needed, what are the characteristics of a library media center that make it better or worse than others.

Parker said funding for the study came from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds. There is flexibility in this funding to continue with a follow-on study looking at a more causal relationship. This will still be a partnership with DESE.

Walters has spoken with the Communications Director at DESE and Parker with Secretary of State Blunt. They would like a joint Commissioner King and Secretary of State Blunt announcement in a school library regarding the survey. Secretary Blunt has suggested North Kansas City where the new combined public – high school library for North Kansas City is located.

Rickerson made a motion for Parker to obtain more information about the follow-on study.

Hogerty seconded.

Vote was unanimous. There will be more communication on the follow-on study.

### **Legislative Issues & Impacts**

Parker said the budget has been passed by the legislature and awaits signature by the Governor.

Rickerson discussed House Bill 3. Higher Education was to be cut between 6% to 11%. MOBIUS and MOREnet at this time were not cut.

Parker said there is a proposal from the Governor's Budget Office to transfer the MOREnet money from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) that was used to support Internet connectivity in the schools. It moves from House Bill 2 (where the DESE budget is located) to House Bill 3. The Secretary of State's Office also has a separate appropriation for MOREnet. This appropriation is for two things - public library Internet connectivity and the statewide electronic licensing for all of higher education, schools, libraries and state government. Secretary Blunt took a very firm position immediately that he did not want a transfer of the SOS appropriation. No move was made to transfer that appropriation.

This is the second year the Out of State Athletes and Entertainers Tax has not been funded. The House Budget Committee did pass a \$2.2 million appropriation for the Cultural Partners, including enough money to allow the Arts Council to qualify for its federal match.

The REAL appropriation and State Aid to Public Libraries which has both the per capita state aid and equalization, are at current level. Secretary Blunt requested a very small increase in state aid to make up the money for the 2000 Census figures. This was approved.

The legislature has approved House Bill 12. This includes an 8% reduction for the Secretary of State's Office. It is now waiting for the Governor's signature.

Senate Bill 52 extends the sunset on the Out of State Athletes and Entertainers Tax for the Cultural Partners. This also removes the wording "subject to appropriation." It is now waiting for the Governor's signature. The Governor has until mid-July to sign this bill.

### **Scholarship Presentation-Patrice Vale**

Parker led the discussion on the scholarship program. She was joined by Patrice Vale, Continuing Education Consultant for the State Library.

The Council recommended placing \$50,000 for scholarship assistance. The Council needs to discuss the eligibility and criteria for the program. Secretary Blunt would like to start with Missouri-based institutions.

Black asked what schools have library science degree programs, for a bachelor's degree and for a master's degree.

Parker responded there is one accredited by the American Library Association at the University of Missouri-Columbia. It has a number of programs that enable a student to receive degrees through either distance learning, partnerships with UMKC, UMSL, and SMS. CMSU has a library media specialist program.

Bush asked the Council to review attachment B for questions or concerns regarding the progress of the scholarship program.

Jones asked how many scholarship awards are anticipated.

Parker said originally there would be 10 scholarships at \$5,000 each. Then it was recommended five scholarships at \$10,000 each. This would be prorated if needed. Currently some library directors are attending library school, thus a need for prorating a scholarship.

Busch asked if the candidate needed to re-apply each semester.

Parker said the scholarships would be administered by semester, but the scholarship would cover all semesters.

Busch said the limits of what will or will not be paid for under the scholarship needs to be clear.

Parker responded the program would like to start having students in school beginning in September of 2003.

### **Legislative Day in Washington, DC Review**

Busch spoke about Legislative Day, which was held on May 13, 2003. The major item discussed was the re-authorization of the Library Services and Technology Act. This is re-authorized every five years. Another issue was obtaining additional funds for the Literacy Through Learning Act. This is a part of the "Leave No Child Behind" program. The President's recommendation for school libraries was \$27 million. Only two schools in Missouri received monies from this program. Parker said the two school districts are the Buffalo and the Hayti schools. The two grants together were \$55,000.

The delegation explained that the E-rate in Missouri is very important. Local schools and libraries collect discounts. MOREnet collects about \$1 million dollars on the behalf of public libraries. This is used to spread connectivity out to the branch libraries. The school portion of the MOREnet E-rate discount is \$4.5 million. This is used primarily for the E-mints project for technology.

### **Recording Booth for Wolfner Library – Richard Smith, Director**

Smith gave a PowerPoint presentation on the recording booth for the Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

A recording booth will enable Wolfner to record Missouri books, periodicals and other materials. Wolfner will be using the Telex system. The system will be a high-speed digital output. It will make electronic files, which will then be used to make audio books.

Burris asked if the audio books will be available to the Library of Congress.

Smith said yes; Wolfner intends to meet the Library of Congress standards.

### **State Librarian's Report**

Parker gave the State Librarian's Report. The update to the report was information on tornado damage. Two libraries were destroyed: the Cedar County Library in Stockton and the Pierce City Public Library (branch library of Barry-Lawrence Regional Library). The library in Pierce City was new. The Cedar County Library has a branch library in El Dorado Springs, which will provide service in that county.

There was considerable damage on the William Jewell campus; the library was not damaged. There was also considerable damage on the Culver Stockton campus; the library was not damaged.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation was contacted regarding the possibility of replacing the computers that were damaged. A letter requesting the replacement of the computers should be sent. In the past, Gates supplied computers in areas that had flooded, but they determined replacement of the computers would be a local obligation. If the computers are not covered under the insurance, the State Library may be able to replace them from federal funds.

The new video conferencing network is operating. MOREnet was asked to arrange an audio that anyone with a Internet connection could access and listen. There will be more sites funded. More training is also needed. Some of the libraries have suggested a list of topics they would like to discuss at upcoming videoconferences. The topics are literacy, wireless, meetings when the sites bring a representative from the Chamber of Commerce to talk about regional efforts that are high on the Chamber of Commerce's list of priorities.

The intent of the equalization program is to get money into the poorest half of the counties in Missouri. Two indicators are used. They are assessed valuation (this is updated each year); the other is percentage of people in poverty (this is done in intervals as the Census makes it available). The new statistical report on the percent of people in

poverty caused a number of counties to be newly eligible or to lose eligibility. The law does not include municipal libraries in the equalization formula.

Secretary Blunt was unable to attend the Letters About Literature ceremony. Representative Rod Jetton, who is on the Council, made the awards presentations.

Shaw made a motion the minutes from the February 27, 2003 meeting be accepted as submitted.

Burris seconded.

Vote was unanimous.

Parker announced Leigh Ann Brown had resigned from the Council. There are two vacancies on the Council. One is for a representative of library trustees and the other is a representative of academic libraries.

The next meeting will be held on September 11, 2003 at the James C. Kirkpatrick Information Center in Jefferson City.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm.

